

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder:— Are the Government aware that the drinking of intoxicants however is a necessary evil which cannot be avoided?

Mr. George Parakkal:— Will the Government give us the number of State Garden Parties held during the year?

Mr. M. P. Cherian:— I wait notice.

Mr. K. Ayyappan:— Is the practice of Government to destroy Government records?

Mr. M. P. Cherian:— There are certain rules relating to the destruction of public records. Under these rules some have to be retained for ever, some kept for three years, four years, six years and so on.

Separate building for Smithy work—G. I. School, Narakkal.

238. Mr. George Parakkal:— Will the Government be pleased to state if a separate building has been provided for Smithy work in the Government Industrial School, Narakkal; if not, will the Government consider the urgent necessity for such a building to minimise danger of fire?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— No action is being taken to cover the roofing with corrugated iron sheets for the present.

Mr. George Parakkal:— Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the fact that the weaving section is also working in the same building?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Yes.

Mr. George Parakkal:— Is it not risky to carry on the two in the same building?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— A small partition has now been put up to separate the two sections. A separate building for the smithy section is also engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. George Parakkal:— Will the Government be pleased to facilitate the work as soon as possible?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:— Does not the Government know that warmth is bad for weaving?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Certainly.

Text books—complaint in the supply of.

239. Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Have the Government received complaints from school authorities, book-sellers, or guardians of students regarding the want of sufficient supply of text books in time or their high prices?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Last year as well as this year there were a few complaints some time after the reopening regarding the non-availability of the English texts for Form III. The publishers concerned immediately attended to the matter so that within less than a week's time on each occasion sufficient copies of the books were available. There were no other complaints.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Are the Government aware that for the past so many years the text book for the School Final Class came into the hands of the students very late?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— I am not aware. No complaint so far as I am concerned has been received by the department.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Is not the Director of Public Instructions personally informed of that fact?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Not with regard to the School Final.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Will the Hon'ble Member for Education kindly tell me whether on previous occasions complaints have not been received regarding the high price of books?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Yes, there have been.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:— Have they not received complaints from the depressed class students that they have not received books even after one or two months after the reopening of schools?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— There have been sporadic complaints. But my department is not concerned with the supply of books to them.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Are the Government aware that especially with regard to text books in English for the School Final Class that certain lessons are tabooed from the curriculum only after such lessons have been gone into by the teachers?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— Sir, some lessons are actually taught in the schools and it is only after that that complaints are received from the heads of institutions that certain lessons are tabooed. The text book prescribed for the School Final Class is the one which is issued under the authority of the Madras Government. It is only after complaints are received from heads of institutions that certain lessons can be considered suitable or unsuitable to the standard, and it is impossible to say before that whether such lessons can be included or not for the examination.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Are we to take it that there is no helping such a method?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— It will be attended to and attempts will be made to bring it to the notice of Heads of Schools.